AfricaConnect II follows the model of the European research and education backbone network GEANT (high-bandwidth, academic Internet serving Europe’s research and education community) and aims to build a pan-African research and education network fully connected to other regions of the world.

**Objective**

The overall objective of AfricaConnect II is the creation, development and use of a regional education and research communication network and high-capacity Internet connectivity with a gateway to global research collaboration. The ultimate goal is to support the African continent to establish self-sustained national and regional research and education networks that contribute to Africa’s development.

**Activities**

The project starts from the observation that researchers and students need tailor-made internet networks to process and exchange big amounts of data in a fast, secure, cost-effective and reliable way and to participate in international collaborations.

AfricaConnect II therefore provides high-band internet connectivity to National Research and Education Networks (NRENs) which in turn provide advanced congestion-free internet connectivity and services dedicated to support the work of universities and research institutes in a country.

Through the project Regional Research and education Networks (UbuntuNet Alliance, WACREN and ASREN) with support from GEANT procure internet capacity at competitive prices for member NRENs. They also provide dedicated e-services and applications (Eduroam, eduGAIN) and trainings to NRENs engineers who provide support to universities.

**Implementation**

The programme is implemented by the UbuntuNet Alliance (Regional Research and Education Network for Eastern and Southern Africa) and GEANT (European Regional Research and Education Network) in collaboration with ASREN (Arabs States Regional Research and Education Network) and WACREN (Western and Central Regional Research and Education Network).